At page 82, line 26, after the recitation of the sequence please insert --SEQ ID NO:10--.

In the Claims

1. [Once Amended] A method of making a mixture of VNTR alleles and their flanking regions of the genomic DNA of one or more members of a species of interest, which method comprises the steps of:

a) dividing genomic DNA of the species of interest into fragments,

b) ligating to each end of each fragment an adapter thereby forming a mixture of adapter-terminated fragments in which each 3'-end is blocked to prevent enzymatic chain extension,

c) contacting [using] a portion of the mixture of adaptor-terminated fragments [as templates] with an adapter primer and a VNTR primer wherein said portion of the mixture of adaptor terminated fragments serves as a template to create a mixture of 5'-flanking VNTR amplimers;

d) contacting [using] a portion of the mixture of adaptor-terminated fragments [as templates] with an adaptor primer and a VNTR antisense primer wherein said portion of the mixture of adaptor terminated fragments serves as template to create a mixture of 3'-flanking VNTR amplimers,

e) and producing a desired mixture of VNTR alleles and their flanking regions by contacting [using] genomic DNA of the one or more members of the species of interest [as template] with the mixture of 5'-flanking VNTR amplimers and/or the mixture of 3'-flanking VNTR amplimers as

primers [to make the desired mixture of VNTR allele and their flanking regions] wherein said genomic DNA of the one or more members of the species of interest is used as template.

11. [Once Amended] An isolated portion of genomic DNA of one or more members of a species of interest, said portion consisting essentially of a representative mixture of alleles of a chosen VNTR sequence and their flanking regions on both sides and which is representative of that member or members.

12. [Once Amended] The isolated portion as claimed in claim 11, wherein the mixture of alleles is representative of those which manifest a trait of interest.

13. [Once Amended] The isolated portion as claimed in claim 11, wherein each member of the representative mixture of alleles has an adaptor at each of its 3'-end and its 5'-end.

14. [Once Amended] An isolated portion of genomic DNA of one or more members of a species of interest, said portion consisting essentially of a single VNTR allele and its flanking regions and an adaptor at each of its 3'-end and its 5'-end, said allele being characteristic of those which manifest a trait of interest.

15. [Once Amended] An isolated portion of genomic DNA of a species of interest, said portion consisting essentially of a representative mixture of 3'-flanking regions of a chosen VNTR sequence, each member of the mixture carrying an adaptor at its 3'-end, and a

representative mixture of 5'-flanking regions of a chosen VNTR sequence, each member of the mixture carrying the same adaptor at its 5'-end.

19. [Once Amended] The method of claim [16] 17, wherein at least one VNTR allele and its flanking sequence representative of those which manifest the trait of interest, is hybridised with a mixture of VNTR alleles and their flanking sequences representative of those which do not manifest the trait of interest, and at least one match and/or at least one mis-match is selected to provide at least one VNTR allele or fragment thereof which is characteristic of the trait of interest.

21. [Once Amended] A method of making a mixture of amplimers which method comprises the steps of:

a) dividing genomic DNA of one or more members of a species of interest into fragments,

b) ligating to each end of each fragment an adaptor thereby forming a mixture of adaptor-terminated fragments in which each 3'-end is blocked to prevent enzymatic chain extension, and

c) contacting [using] a portion of the mixture of adaptor-terminated fragments [as templates] with an adaptor primer and a VNTR primer wherein said portion of the mixture of adaptor terminated fragments serves as a template to create a mixture of 5'-flanking VNTR amplimers, and/or

d) [using] a portion of the mixture of adaptor-terminated fragments [as templates] with an adaptor primer and a VNTR antisense primer wherein